

**ICWA Specific Recommendations**  
**October 2002 Performance Audit, Legislative Audit Division**  
**Child Protective Services**

**Recommendation #10**

- A. We recommend CFSD and the Department of Justice continue to coordinate efforts to identify and recruit qualified expert witnesses.
- B. We recommend CFSD, the Department of Justice, and the Supreme Court re-emphasize ICWA's qualified expert witness requirements as part of their training programs.

**Recommendation #11**

We recommend CFSD:

- A. Assure that tribal governments have sufficient opportunities to comment on policy and procedure development affecting tribal activities.
- B. Increase efforts to coordinate case management activities with tribal governments.
- C. Review policies and procedures to assure all critical elements of ICWA are addressed in the manual and ICWA checklist.

**Recommendation #12**

We recommend CFSD establish specific policies and procedures for required case file documentation to improve consistency of ICWA information and to better support social worker actions and decisions.

**Recommendation #13**

We recommend CFSD increase its focus on having documentation that clearly demonstrates the active level of effort required for ICWA cases.

**Recommendation #14**

We recommend CFSD:

- A. Re-emphasize ICWA placement preferences as part of CFSD's training curriculum.
- B. Develop a methodology for improving its documentation supporting reasons for not using ICWA-preferred foster care placements.
- C. Increase emphasis on recruiting tribally accepted foster homes, which should include coordinating recruiting and licensing activities with tribal organizations.

**Recommendation #15**

We recommend CFSD:

- A. Clarify policy on the type and frequency of supervisory review of ICWA case files.
- B. Expand CFSD policy to require supervisors to sign off on the ICWA checklist.